

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has noted that there was no claim 18 in the original claims. The claims listed above conform to the Examiner's renumbering of the claims.

Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to depend from claim 4, rather than claim 3. These amendments to claims 5 and 6 were made to correct a typographical error, and were not made in response to any rejection.

Claims 1-24 have been rejected under § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jin et al. (Jin). The Examiner argues that Jin discloses in FIG. 3 an amplifier stage 331, a feedback developed by comparing the input Vref with the output of amplifier 331. The Examiner also argues that amplifier 311 receives the feedback and serves as a preamplifier for amplifier 331, and that the feedback action will cause a predetermined relationship to exist between the DC levels at the input and output of amplifier 331.

Amended claim 1 recites a method of establishing DC bias levels in an RF power amplifier, including "providing a first power amplifier stage having an input and an output, wherein the first power amplifier stage amplifies an input signal received by the power amplifier stage input to generate an output signal at the power amplifier stage output", "generating a feedback signal using the input signal and the output signal of a the first power amplifier stage", and "using the feedback signal to control the DC bias level of a second power amplifier stage."

Jin does not teach or suggest the invention recited in amended claim 1. The power amplifier 331 of Jin receives a signal at the negative input node from the amplifier 311. The positive input node of the amplifier 331 is connected to a fixed reference voltage Vref. The signal received at the negative input node is the signal that gets amplified by the amplifier 331. The

compensation voltage V_x is derived from a comparison of the output signal V_{out} and the reference voltage V_{ref} , not the output signal V_{out} and the signal received by the negative input node of amplifier 331. Further, the purpose of the compensation circuit 35 of Jin is to help the amplifier respond quickly to a change in the DC level of the input signal, but is not used to control the DC bias level of the amplifier 331.

For at least these reasons, applicant asserts that amended claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. Since dependent claims 2-9 depend from amended claim 1, it is also believed that these claims are allowable over the prior art.

Amended claim 10 recites a method of establishing DC bias levels in an RF power amplifier including, "providing a first power amplifier stage having an input for receiving an input signal, wherein the first power amplifier stage amplifies the input signal to generate an output signal at an output of the first power amplifier stage", "sensing the DC bias level of the input signal and of the output signal of the first power amplifier stage", "generating a feedback signal using sensed DC bias levels", and "coupling the feedback signal to a second power amplifier stage to control the DC bias level of the second power amplifier stage."

For reasons similar to those set forth with respect to claim 1, applicant asserts that amended claim 10 is allowable over the prior art. Since dependent claims 11-17 depend from amended claim 10, it is also believed that these claims are allowable over the prior art.

Amended claim 18 recites an RF power amplifier including "a first power amplifier stage having an input for receiving an RF input signal, wherein the first power amplifier stage amplifies the RF input signal to generate an output signal at an output of the power amplifier stage", "a second power amplifier stage", and "an amplifier having a first input coupled to the

output of the first power amplifier stage, a second input coupled to the input of the first power amplifier stage for sensing the DC bias levels at the input and output of the first power amplifier stage, and an output coupled to the second power amplifier stage to control the DC bias level of the second power amplifier stage."

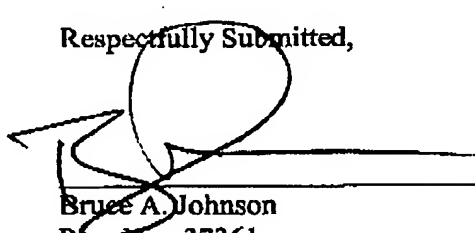
For reasons similar to those set forth with respect to claim 1, applicant asserts that amended claim 18 is allowable over the prior art. Since dependent claims 19-24 depend from amended claim 18, it is also believed that these claims are allowable over the prior art.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that all claims are patentable over the prior art. It is further more respectfully submitted that all other matters have been addressed and remedied and that the application is in form for allowance. Should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Bruce A. Johnson, Applicants' Attorney at 512-301-9900 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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